



The Bulletin

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THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL—164 YEARS AGO

On June 13, 1771, the Earl of Dunmore, on behalf of His Majesty, King George the Third, signed the Charter which brought into being "The Society of the Hospital in the City of New York in America". Some years after the Revolution, the present name, "The Society of the New York Hospital" was adopted.

150 YEARS AGO

On June 17, 1785, the Board of Governors, meeting at Bradford's Coffee House, appointed a Committee "to oblige the present Occupants (namely, the Scotch immigrants referred to in the April issue of the Bulletin) to leave the Hospital Buildings, then have the same so far repaired as will preserve the Building from the Weather, and provide a suitable Person with a Family to reside therein, who are to be intrusted with the care thereof.

NOTICE

Mr. H. H. Creighton has been appointed Night Clerk with the responsibility of covering the hospital after the regular closing hours of the business offices and reporting to the Executive Director. His duties include contacts with patients from the economic standpoint, as a representative of the Manager of Accounts.

THE CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

Easter was a beautiful, exciting day for our youngsters. A contribution, by one of our staff, of two real bunnies and a hen with brand new chicks brought to life many Easter tide stories and actually convinced some of our littlest children that mamma hen *had given* the bunnies the gaily colored eggs to hide in the bushes and flower beds.

The biggest children of our group (the nurses and maids) have been having good times too. The week of May 6th, a party of 21, including our former Superintendent, Miss Alice E. Ellison, gleefully climbed to the 2nd balcony of the Empire Theater and sat enthralled thru the Pulitzer Prize Play. In April some of us (the less sophisticated) went to the circus and enjoyed and suffered all the thrills which only the 5 ring circus can provide.

During 27 years of service this institution has "manufactured" some 26 tons of flesh. The average weight gain per child for 1934 was 3 lbs., but many a child takes home 10 to 15 newly made pounds.

Miss Winifred Murray, admitting worker for the Convalescent Hospital, may be communicated with any Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday morning in Room No. N-03A Ex. No. 7936.

At a meeting of the Board of Governors of The Society of the New York Hospital, held May 7th, 1935, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by a rising vote.

MAY 7—1935

WHEREAS The Society of the New York Hospital, through the death of Howard Townsend, has lost a most honored member of its Board of Governors, and a President who has served the Hospital with distinguished ability.

Be IT RESOLVED That we, the Governors, at our meeting held at the Hospital on Tuesday, May 7th, 1935, hereby record our profound sense of loss and our very deep appreciation of the loyalty which marked every action of Mr. Townsend in his relations to the Hospital.

Mr. Townsend was elected a member of the Society in 1898 and was elected a Governor in 1899; Vice President in 1907 and served in that capacity until 1915 when he was elected President. He served as President for four years, until December 1919. Among the countless services which Mr. Townsend rendered to the Society was the important and constructive part he took in the establishment and development of the Campbell Convalescent Cottages.

The Board of Governors of this Hospital will greatly miss his able and devoted services and his delightful personality.

THE OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT

The Out-Patient Department is divided into five principal divisions, corresponding to the clinical divisions of the Hospital itself, i.e. Medical, Surgical, Pediatric, Woman's Clinic and Psychiatry. New patients are admitted to one of these five divisions according to the principal complaint or disability, determined in the main Out-Patient Department by the admitting physician.

Patients for the Medical and Surgical clinics, except children, are first admitted to the main Out-Patient admitting Office at 516 East 70th Street. Children who have not completed their twelfth year are admitted for the first time to the general pediatric clinic held every morning. The entrance is at 530 East 70th Street. Women suffering from special complaints or maternity cases are admitted through the admitting office in the Woman's Clinic at 540 East 70th Street. Patients for the Psychiatry clinic are admitted through the office at 580 East 68th Street.

Patients seen in any one of these five divisions, are frequently sent to one or more of the other divisions for consultation or for treatment, or they may be transferred definitely to another division. Thus, patients from the Children's Clinic after their first examination, are frequently sent to the Dental Clinic and the Nose and Throat Clinic in the main Out-Patient Department, for examination and treatment.

A record is kept of every clinic visit for statistical purposes. A great many patients pay some fee as a contribution toward the cost of their medical care. This must be entered by the Accounting Department. A medical note of every visit, examination and

treatment is written in the clinical record. The "unit" system of records is used in the New York Hospital. This means that all the medical and social information on different sheets is assembled in one folder and filed in the central record office. The record must be available in every department when the patient makes a visit. It is not wise to have patients read their own records—"A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." Misunderstood terms may cause unnecessary fear and apprehension. The record is therefore sent in advance by other means.

THE NURSING SERVICE

Commencement activities for the School of Nursing have been the particular interest of all concerned during the past month. Festivities opened with the Junior-Senior Prom Friday night May seventeenth. Vesper Service on Sunday May nineteenth was conducted by Rev. Roswell Parkhurst Barnes, Minister of the University Heights Presbyterian Church. Graduation Exercises were held Wednesday night, May twenty-second at which time diplomas and medals of the School were granted to thirty-two students of whom twenty are from New York State and twelve from nine other states. These students were admitted to the School the first year of its reorganization, the autumn of 1932, and represent the first group of students having their full course in our new buildings. Dr. Haven Emerson, Professor of Public Health Practice in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University and recently appointed Director of the survey of New York's hospitals to be made under the auspices of the United Hospital Fund, gave the address of the evening, stressing the service rendered the community through broader aspects of hospital service and the larger demands made upon nurses today for greater preparation in health services.

Two thousand nurses, among whom were one hundred and fifty students and graduates of our hospital, participated in the annual Service in memory of Florence Nightingale and the nurses who have died in service held at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, Sunday night May nineteenth.

To our friends who contributed largely by their interest and patronage we owe appreciation for the generous response given at the performance of "Her Shop" a benefit for the Scholarship Aid and Student Loan Fund. Five hundred and fifty-three dollars were added to our depleted funds and will prove a boon to students next year.

As a means of making new arrivals such as graduate staff nurses, affiliating and graduate students better oriented in their work and surroundings tours through the buildings are conducted by Miss Moore every two weeks. During April and May seventy-four nurses availed themselves of this opportunity and great interest was manifest

not only in the nursing service but also in the nutritional, social service and other departments of the hospital.

Beginning the first of May, Cobble Court, Inc., an organization established in 1933 by nurses for the benefit of unemployed and unemployable nurses, turned over to the School of Nursing the activities of its Beauty Parlor. This has been conducted in our residence with the patronage of our staff and patients, and has netted each year a substantial profit for its cause. The Service Committee of the School of Nursing will administer these activities, using any profits accruing for required needs of students or staff or other worthy service activities.

Among our many guests during the past few weeks are again found several representing foreign services. Miss Alice M. Powell, who has been in China twenty-nine years, not only visited our institution but gave us

a delightful talk concerning her years of pioneer nursing experiences in north China. Miss Bertha Landsman, Director of Public Health Nursing Service, Jerusalem, Palestine; Miss Sarah White, St. Luke's College of Nursing, Tokyo; Miss Patricia Johnson, Bedford, England; Mrs. Walter Lovett, Foch Foundation, Paris, and the Misses Beaumont and Stiles of the staff of the Peiping Union Medical College, Peiping, China, spent varying lengths of time with us observing different aspects of our work.

Groups of students from the Elizabeth General Hospital, the Bridgeport General Hospital, and Highland Manor Junior College showed particular interest in our work.

From Teachers College, Columbia University, a number of graduate students visited classes and lectures.

Two concerts by the Hospital Music Association were scheduled in May for our patients. This association of more than twenty-five years existence was founded by Walter J. Tufts and is supported by interested individuals. Four professional musicians, Max Barr, violinist; Herman Steisel, cellist; Ralph Barr, pianist and Margaret Bristol, soprano soloist, rendered delightful and greatly appreciated selections to our patients in the Woman's Clinic, Children's Clinic, Payne Whitney Clinic and general hospital.

Among many house activities in our residence we wish to record the musicale presented by members of the clinical, nutrition and nursing staffs. This was the second such occasion of the year and was well attended by our group and friends. We hope these may be the forerunner of more events of such cooperative social type.

THE SOCIAL SERVICE

Do you know that during the year of 1934, nine thousand seven hundred and ninety books were given out from the Patients' Library F-143, to the patients of our hospital?

The Patients' Library is connected with the Social Service Committee of the Hospital. There is a Librarian in charge five mornings a week assisted by volunteers. The books are donated through the Committees and their friends. During the winter there were eleven volunteers,—some of these were cataloguing, and others visited the Pavilions regularly twice a week. The average circulation is eight hundred and fifty books per month. In addition to the books, games and puzzles are distributed.

THE GIFT SHOP

The Shop carries on appreciating the help of the personnel, and striving to express this feeling of gratitude by offering better and better service. The object of the Shop is to raise funds to aid in the work that the Social Service of this Institution is doing, and those patronizing the Gift Shop can feel an integral part of this endeavor. The articles on display are obtained to meet the needs of the purchaser, and are selected because they best seem to meet the requirements.

It is the earnest desire of the Committee that all should think of this shop as their Gift Shop; and know that at all times constructive criticism is more than welcome.

THE CENTRAL LABORATORIES

The manufacture of solutions intended for administration to patients either intravenously or by hypodermoclysis is not ordinarily regarded as a function of the laboratory service, that some explanation may be desirable to show how, in the New York Hospital, this function came to be centered in the Central Laboratories, formerly called the Division of Laboratories.

The first active interest in this subject developed shortly after the War. At that time the Brady Foundation became interested in a solution of dextrose and gum acacia, the so-called gum-glucose solution, which had been used to some extent during the War in the treatment of shock. The administration of this preparation had been highly recommended upon theoretical grounds but certain difficulties in transportation and handling under war conditions had apparently been influential in causing undesirable results and opposition to its use had developed. Nevertheless, at another hospital in New York City, a method for its preparation had been developed and it was claimed that the solution had been used with excellent results in acidosis and shock, and the Laboratory was requested to investigate the situation.

It was found that there were certain theoretical objections to the method of prepar-

ation that had been recommended and the laboratory in meeting these objections was able to devise an improved method. This was accomplished by taking advantage of the automatic buffering powers of calcium carbonate and resulted in the production of a solution that was not only clear and sterile but had a reaction that was close to chemical neutrality.

This solution was first issued in 1920 and was used by the Brady Foundation with satisfaction and good effect for a period of years until the introduction of the sacral method of anesthesia so reduced the incidence of post-operative shock that the demand for gum-glucose gradually slackened and finally ceased. During all of the time that this preparation was in use, there occurred but a single reaction following its administration. This was due to the use of a bottle of solution not yet ready for issue but taken by mistake during the night. No accurate record of the amount of this solution issued was kept and it is not known what its market price was at that time but it is safe to estimate that the saving to the Hospital amounted to at least several hundred dollars.

It was about 1926 that information was presented to the Laboratory that the intravenous administration of a solution of dextrose was often regarded as advisable, but the solution then available so frequently produced reactions in the patient receiving it, that most of the physicians connected with the Hospital had come to regard its use as dangerous. The laboratory volunteered to investigate this situation also and was soon able to demonstrate that when a solution of dextrose is sterilized by heat, the dextrose undergoes considerable decomposition with the formation of acid and other substances which were possibly the cause of the reactions that occurred.

The laboratory then undertook the manufacture of dextrose solution, again utilizing the buffering power of calcium carbonate, and produced a solution that was neutral and free from reaction-producing (pyrogenic) substances, even though it was sterilized in the autoclave. But with the improvement in the character of the solution, there followed an increase in the demand for it and this method was too clumsy and time-consuming to be applied to quantity production. A new method was thereupon devised, according to which sterilization and clarification were accomplished by filtration alone and the solution was at no time subjected to heat.

This solution was first issued on April 1, 1928. It was a fifty percent solution of dextrose, packaged as it is at present in Pyrex glass flasks containing 100 cc. and closed with No-air stoppers. There has been a steadily increasing demand for this solution from the Hospital. From its first issue until the closing of the old hospital building there were issued 10,867 flasks and from the

opening of the new building until May 1, 1935 there were issued 16,413 flasks. This makes a grand total of 27,280 flasks, or 2,728 liters of solution.

Two objects were accomplished by the issuance of this solution. There was rendered available for the treatment of patients a solution of glucose that is sterile and clear and rarely causes reactions. In addition, this service is rendered at a minimum cost to the Hospital. In 1928, before dextrose solutions had attained their present popularity, they were put up in ampoules by only one or two pharmaceutical houses and were sold at a cost of about \$1.50 per 100 cc of fifty percent solution. At that time the cost of preparation by the laboratory, including the cost of installation of the necessary apparatus and the purchase of flasks, etc., was slightly in excess of nine cents per 100 cc. At the present time many supply houses are manufacturing dextrose solutions for intravenous administration and the effect of competition has been to bring about a marked reduction in the price so that it is possible to-day, when buying in lots of 5,000 to 10,000 ampoules per year to get them for as little as 24 cents per 100 cc. The present cost of production by the laboratory is between four and five cents per 100 cc. On the basis of these figures it is estimated that during the seven years the Laboratory has been engaged in the manufacture of this solution the Hospital has been saved a sum which approximates \$21,000.00.

The Central Laboratories issue many thousands of containers annually to the clinical divisions. These are for the collection of materials for laboratory examinations. It also issues numerous vessels containing glucose and other agents required by the clinical divisions. In theory, all of these containers should be returned to the Laboratories. In practice, this has not been the case.

During 1934, the Laboratories had to purchase 1200 glucose flasks (100 a month) at a cost of approximately \$240 to replace flasks which were not returned to the Laboratories. This loss has been reduced through the cooperation of the Nursing Staff to less than 5 a month.

During the same year, over 10,700 so-called Wassermann tubes were issued to the clinical divisions which were not returned by them. This represents a loss of approximately 800 tubes per month. This was reduced during the past four months to a loss of 500 tubes per month. We are confident that with a little effort this loss could be reduced to less than 100 per month.

DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION

A field practise course is being given at the New York Hospital this summer in connection with Teachers College, Columbia University. Lectures and clinics will be conducted by the physicians on the staff of the New York Hospital and Cornell Medical

College and the members of the Nutrition Department.

The requirements for students are a college degree with a major in Food and Nutrition and hospital training and experience satisfactory to the advisors.

A limited number of appointments are being given to college instructors in nutrition.

The following states are being represented:

New Jersey, Michigan, Oklahoma, Washington, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Massachusetts, Canada.

On May 16th, 1935, the Department served 6,303 meals—"a record high."

DINING ROOM and MEAL HOURS

East Dining Room

Breakfast—6:30—9:15 AM
Luncheon—11:15—1:30 PM
Dinner 5:00—7:00 PM
Night Supper—11:15 P. M.—1:30 A. M.

Garden Dining Room

Breakfast 6:25—8:30 AM
Luncheon—12:00—1:30 PM
Dinner—5:45—7:30 PM

College Dining Room

Luncheon—11:30—2:00 PM

O.P.D. Lunch Room

9:00 AM—4:00 PM

North Dining Room

Breakfast 6:15—8:30 AM
Luncheon—11:00—1:45 P.M.
Dinner—4:45—6:30 PM

Guest Dining Room—14th Floor

Luncheon—12:00—2:00 PM
Dinner—6:00—7:30 PM

Staff Dining Room

Luncheon—12:00—1:30 PM
Dinner—5:45—7:00 PM

Nurses Residence

Breakfast—6:30—8:30 AM
Luncheon—12:00—1:30 PM
Dinner—5:45—7:30 PM

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

Thrice blessed are we in the facilities we have for convalescent care of our sick children. The increasingly mild weather is permitting more and more use of the roof of the Children's Clinic. Immediately after resident's rounds in the morning, a hegira of

little patients in beds, on foot, in wheel chairs starts from the wards. Those who are able enjoy a seesaw and other games under nursing supervision; others are content watching the changing traffic of coal barges, steamers, speed boats and yachts on the river. Birthday parties and personal salutes (or at least so we fancy them) from an advertising blimp and airplanes liven the day. Lunch and supper trays are brought up from the diet kitchens so that the children can have a maximum period of time outdoors. Rest hour is also spent on the roof, but under a shelter to prevent over-exposure to the sun.

The opportunity to play here serves as a useful transition from complete bed rest to the convalescent care which the ones requiring it are given in the Convalescent Hospital at White Plains. The benefits accruing to the children who visit Campbell Cottages are so well known that to comment on them would be presumptuous. It is indeed heartening, however, to see ruddy, filled out cheeks and sparkling eyes return to these wan, long suffering, most patient of all patients.

The Children's Clinic of the New York Hospital has been well represented on the programs of the American Pediatric Society in Cleveland, the Society for Pediatric Research in Atlantic City, and the Conference on Psychiatric Education of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene in Washington, D. C.

Members of the pediatric departments of the Johns Hopkins, Columbia and University of Pennsylvania Medical Colleges were our guests recently for luncheon. A round table discussion was held of various research projects in progress in our department. Such free exchange of opinion prevents needless repetition of work.

The program of the Philadelphia Pediatric Society for the March meeting was presented by a group from the New York Hospital. The afternoon prior to the meeting was spent in visiting the Children's Memorial Hospital of Philadelphia.

Professors Scroggi and Romero of Santiago, Chili, were recent visitors here.

ASSOCIATED HOSPITAL SERVICE OF NEW YORK

An agreement has been arranged with the Associated Hospital Service of New York bringing the New York Hospital into a Group Hospital Service plan as a participating member. Subscribers to the plan may have free care for a 21 day period in participating member hospitals. Thereafter the regular hospital rates will apply, less 25%, unless the attending physician advises that no further hospital care is needed.

The choice of hospitals by the patient will depend on what doctor they select. Hospitals subscribing are not obligated to accept cases if facilities are lacking or if the case is not considered desirable for the hospital. Voluntary Hospitals with closed staffs like the New York Hospital will probably receive few cases from this source.

THE RECORD ROOM

The History Department of this hospital is a circulating and reference library with some of the functions of a business office. Patients' histories are confidential and their privacy must be safe guarded and at the same time made available to the doctors for treatment of patients and for purposes of medical research and teaching. The History Department is actively connected with every department of the hospital and with all the various groups of hospital workers.

We have in the Record Room some 5,000 volumes and in addition over 200,000 individual case records in craft folders. Since this hospital opened in September 1932, there have originated 96,000 patients' records; the name file carries 96,000 names; and the diagnostic index over 5,000 different diagnoses. The records of the old New York Hospital, Old New York O.P.D., Manhattan Maternity, Lying-In Hospital, Cornell Clinic, and Nursery & Child's Hospital are available in this department. A twenty-four hour service is maintained and a circulation of some 2,000 records taken care of daily.

The sacredness of hospital records was recognized as early as 1551 as the following interesting transcript from the Book of Orders of Saint Bartholomew's Hospital in London indicates: "An order for the safe keeping of the evidences and writings appertaining to the hospital:— There shall one fair and substantial chest be provided, and the same be set in the most convenient and surest place of the house, the which shall have 3 several locks, and 3 keys, whereof the President always to have one, and the Treasurer one, and a Commoner, appointed by the whole house to have the third. And it shall not be lawful to any of the Governors to have any specialty, evidence or writing, out of the said chest, neither any other person to carry any of them out of the house (no, though it be for the affairs of the said house), but only a copy thereof, which shall be taken in the presence of the 3 persons above named, that have the keys and the original forthwith to be locked up again."

We have a wealth of material interesting from an historical point of view. Our very first record is a patients' register dating back to 1793. Our first real patient histories are found in a book entitled "Surgical Registers" which covers histories of patients ad-

mitted from 1808-1833. In the early days records were not kept for every patient, but only for interesting cases.

As early as 1861 we notice an index which might be considered comparable, in a sense, to our modern diagnostic index. We have the first formal Temperature, Pulse, and Respiration sheets used. A volume dated 1877 has some interesting examples. Some of the early records are illustrated. A case of Congenital Epispadias admitted in December 1878 is recorded with some interesting colored sketches,—diagrams showing steps of the operation.

There is also a volume dated 1856 in which we find plates illustrating the appearance of a breast tumor under the microscope. Some of the terminology in these old records sounds strange to our ears. "Patient went out on a pass and eloped." "Patient taken to the theatre and etherized." The Register of 1793 shows patient's occupations to be namely laborer, mariner, or spinster.

A sense of humor was by no means lacking among the physicians who wrote these records. This is born out in the case history of the Irish Coachman, with the "Fistula Fernando" recorded in Irish brogue; and also in the cartoon of Peter and his sweet pills, found in a volume dated 1856.

Present visitors to the Dept have come from various states of the union and from Canada, England, France, Spain, Hungary, and South Africa.

The Nursing Department has included the Record Room as well as the Power House in its tours. We think it would be a good plan for other departments as well as the Nursing Service to conduct inspection tours.

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

The new stereofluoroscope has arrived from California and is being installed in the Pulmonary Clinic on L-5. This is the only fluoroscope of its kind and is the gift of the International Health Board.

Dr. Kintaro Yanagi of the Institute of Bio-chemistry of the Tokyo Imperial University visited New York Hospital on May 20th. He is here on a Fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation and has spent the last two years with Dr. William S. McCann of the University of Rochester Medical School.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE

The Department of Engineering and Maintenance has certain specified duties to perform, viz, the supply of light, power, steam for heating, cooking, sterilizing etc., hot and cold water, air conditioning and maintenance in general.

To accomplish these services this department keeps a force of skilled mechanics who have spent the most of their lives in acquiring the skill and knowledge necessary to fit themselves for their various professions. They are specialists in their line and do not interfere with the other professions such as are found in this Hospital. No doctor, for instance, can state that an electrician has tried to operate on a patient for any disease, that not being his line of work. However, the case is not mutual for the amateur electricians, plumbers, tinsmiths etc., who have gained an extensive knowledge of the mechanical trades during their apprenticeship in operating rooms, medical class rooms etc., have taken it upon themselves to repair various instruments that should properly go to the electric shop, machine shop or plumbing shop, etc. A few weeks ago a helper in one of the Hospital Departments took it upon himself to repair a certain piece of electrical apparatus. He succeeded in getting it all apart, very nicely, the only flaw in the operation being that in the course of events some of the pieces were broken and other parts lost. At this juncture the repairs were stopped and the sad remains were sent to the electric shop with an order to repair same immediately. This perfectly reasonable request however, could not be complied with as it was necessary to send out to Ohio to obtain the lost and broken parts, this coil not being a stock article, but special, and only supplied by the makers of the apparatus. This of course, meant a delay of about ten days before the apparatus could function again. If the electric shop had been notified in the first place and the kindly intentioned would be repair man had kept his hands off, the apparatus would have been repaired in a short time and the department would have had the use of the machine.

Another case which occurred a few days ago will also illustrate how that old adage "Shoemaker, stick to your last," should be honored in the observance and not the breach, happened on one of the floors of the Main Hospital. An orderly seeing a small drip of water coming from a flushometer on a slop sink, preferring to fix it himself acquired a pipe wrench and unscrewed the top of the flushometer. Having forgotten, or not knowing that it was necessary to shut off the water supply to this sink before trying to repair the flushometer, he was horrified to find a stream of water one inch in diameter and under about 75 pounds pres-

sure issuing from the open head of the flushometer. Unluckily this water did not fall into the slop sink but preferred to run all over the floor, out of the room into the corridors and other rooms. A hurried call was sent to the Plumbing Shop that there was a bad leak. In the meantime mattresses, pillows, towels and bedding were used to try to confine the water until the plumber shut it off. This caused wet walls and ceilings and grounds on the electric wiring, to say nothing of other inconveniences. In case of doubt call on this department.

WOMAN'S CLINIC

The rental of 300 milligrams of radium from the Radium Corporation of America was made possible fifteen months ago through the generous support of the Ladies Auxiliary Board of the Lying-In Hospital. We are very grateful to the Ladies Auxiliary Board inasmuch as their generosity has enabled us to care for women suffering from diseases where the treatment with radium is indicated. Since the radium was obtained, it has been in practically constant use. A Radiation Clinic was established in our Out Patient Department for the careful follow-up of the patients that have been treated in this clinic. It is gratifying to note that at the present time we have seventy-five patients on the follow-up index. Besides the personal contact that the staff doctor in charge of the clinic has, he enjoys the co-operation of a consultant from the X-ray Department who attends the Radiation Clinic every Friday morning. Even though the number of patients registered may still be considered small, through the interest and co-operation of the Social Service Department the number of return and follow-up visits has been 100%.

Mr. W. F. Victor Bonney, eminent British gynecologist and obstetrician associated with the Chelsea and Middlesex Hospitals for Women, London, visited us on May 20th. We were fortunate to have him attend our Staff Conference that same afternoon. He is visiting the States as the guest of the American Gynecological Society.

THE FORMULARY COMMITTEE

The history of the Formulary Committee is an interesting one as it is one of the few committees formed in the early days of this institution which still survives as an active organization. It was originally formed to compile and publish a hospital formulary but its duties were extended in an effort to decrease the high cost of drugs to the hospital and to check the excessive use of unnecessary proprietary medications.

An analysis was made of the bills covering the purchases of medicinal substances for the pharmacy from September 1, 1932 to January 25, 1933, a period of 21 weeks, and during this time there were 526 items of proprietary drugs costing \$12,429.80. Of

this amount \$3459.78 were for essential substances—epinephrin, thyroid, parathyroid, liver extract, insulin and antilutetic preparations, although often prescribed in unnecessarily expensive forms. The remainder of the drugs were classified as follows:

1. Substances sold under proprietary names at prices much greater than those charged for the substances under non-proprietary names.

2. Substances that should be prepared by the pharmacy.

3. Substances the therapeutic value of which has never been established and which should not be used except for research purposes.

4. Useless substances, as those sold under false or misleading claims.

5. Articles purchased at such low figures that tests of purity and strength should be made.

During the following year from February 1933 to February 1934 the Committee regulated drugs issued by the Pharmacy and with the cooperation of the staff gradually eliminated unnecessary proprietary medications at considerable saving to the New York Hospital. In the spring of 1934, regulation of the Pharmacy by the Committee ceased and later it became a consulting committee on drugs, responsible to the Medical Board.

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

This Department recently received a visit of inspection from Commander E. Sekudu of the Medical Corps of the Imperial Japanese Navy. Commander Sekudu, who was accompanied by Dr. Toyohiko Takami of Brooklyn, was keenly interested in all that he saw and stated that, as a result of his visit, he would take back many valuable lessons to his post at Sasebo, Japan.

PAYNE WHITNEY PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC

On April 12, the Yale Puppeteers entertained the patients of the Payne Whitney Clinic and on May 15th, a concert was given in the Clinic garden and was much enjoyed by the patients. Dr. H. Harris, physician to the Banstead Hospital, one of the London hospitals for mental disorders visited the Clinic. Dr. Roy R. Grinker, Professor of Psychiatry of the University of Chicago also spent a day at the Clinic and attended a Staff Conference. The Clinic was also visited by Dr. Adolf Meyer, Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University and Dr. Franklin G. Ebaugh, Professor of Psychiatry, University of Colorado.

The bookcases in the patients' lounges have now been supplied with doors, and gifts of books with which to fill the shelves and furnish a helpful treatment resource for the patients will be much appreciated. Several members of the medical staff attended the Conference on Psychiatric Education and the meeting of the American Psychiatric Association in Washington during the week of May 12th and contributions

were made by two. On Alumni Day of the Medical College, a few of the visiting members visited the Clinic and a special clinical demonstration was given. The third year of the Payne Whitney Nursery School is about ended. The school has been quite successful and provides a satisfactory means of studying children's development and behavior with a view to a better understanding of deviations observed in adults in psychiatric practice. The freedom from noise and dirt since the removal of the coal handling plants on the water front, and the exclusion of commercial traffic from Exterior Street between 65th and 71st Streets is a great boon to the tense and sleepless patients of the Clinic, as well as to the service generally. The name of the street has been changed to Marie Curie Street in honor of the French scientist.

BLOOMINGDALE HOSPITAL

A member of this staff read a paper, Psychotic Reactions Associated with Hypoglycemia or an artificially-induced Hyperinsulinism with Differential Diagnosis between These and Schizophrenia, before the Philadelphia Psychiatric Society on April 12th.

On April 8th a medical meeting to which outside physicians were invited was held at Bloomingdale Hospital. The subject, Some Psychiatric Disorders Associated with Thyroid Disease, was presented with illustrative case material by staff members.

The discussion was carried on by members of the New York Hospital staff and other physicians.

Several members of the medical staff attended the meetings of the American Psychiatric Association in Washington from May 13th to 17th inclusive. A paper was presented, "Suicide and Mental Disease," before the Section of Neurology and Psychiatry of the Academy of Medicine and the New York Neurological Society on May 14th.

The Graduation Exercises of the Bloomingdale Hospital School of Nursing were held on May 4th. Nine men and nine women were graduated.

The Governors' Luncheon, an annual event at Bloomingdale Hospital, was held at the Staff House on May 4th, at which time the Governors entertained the staff and a few friends of the Hospital.

A new room for the use of the Governors of the Bloomingdale Committee has been furnished in the Administration Building of Bloomingdale Hospital. A thirteen foot solid walnut table which was found in use in the laundry has been refinished and placed in the Committee room. This table antedates Bloomingdale and goes back to the 1808 building of the New York Hospital.

Fortune Magazine in its April number published an article entitled Nervous Breakdown. Bloomingdale Hospital is referred

to and the facilities of the Hospital are briefly described.

Apparatus for softening the water at Bloomingdale Hospital has been installed. This will prevent irritation to the skin of patients receiving hydrotherapy and will also be economical to the Hospital in its use of soap.

The beauty of the grounds has been remarked by many visitors. The pink and white dogwood and other flowering shrubs have been especially lovely this spring and have been enjoyed by many friends of the Hospital.

DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

JAMES BUCHANAN BRADY FOUNDATION

On May 25th, The Department of Urology, James Buchanan Brady Foundation of The New York Hospital entertained guests from Philadelphia and New York at an operative and "dry" clinic. At this time there were two operations and various demonstrations by the Staff. There were approximately 130 guests of the Department on that occasion; twenty-five of whom registered from Philadelphia, about thirty were nurses and doctors from The New York Hospital and the remainder, Medical guests from New York and vicinity. Following the program in the Surgical Amphitheatre, the guests adjourned to the office of the Brady Foundation where Mr. William Didusch conducted an exhibition of drawings and then the guests were shown, in small groups, through the indoor and outdoor services of the Department.

During the month of May a member of the department presented his research work along surgical lines at Bradford, Pa.; The Medical Society of the State of Missouri at Excelsior Springs; The Medical Society of the State of Kansas at Salina, Kansas; The Medical Society of the State of New York at Albany, N. Y. and the Medical Society of the State of Connecticut at New Haven, Conn.

Several of the nurses of the Department of Urology, James Buchanan Brady Foundation have been making a critical review of a Text Book of Urology for Nurses, which is being prepared for publication by two members of the Staff.

One of our distinguished visitors from India, Dr. Carman, gave an illustrated lecture on the practice of medicine in out of the way places in India, at the regular monthly meeting of the Department. Several of the nurses of the Department acted as models in displaying the very attractive native costumes, which added interesting color to the lecture.

Among our distinguished visitors recently has been Dr. H. E. Shih, Peiping Union Medical College, Peiping, China, who co-operated in the Medical work in China with Dr. Clark T. Alexander of the United States Navy Medical Corps, who is temporarily assigned to duty in our Department by the

Navy Department. Another distinguished guest was Mr. A. Todd of Guys Hospital, London, who was particularly interested in our original operative surgery of the kidney. Other distinguished visitors to the Department since our last bulletin was published were Dr. Hugh H. Young, Baltimore, Md., Dr. Clyde L. Deming, New Haven, Conn., Dr. P. A. Susina, Vichy, France, Dr. H. Earle Rogers, El Paso, Texas, Dr. B. G. Mejia, Medellin, Rep. of Columbia.

On May 18th the Annual Field Day and Banquet of the Department took place at the Westchester Biltmore Country Club. In the afternoon several spirited games of tennis were played by members of the department and their guests. Golf and swimming were also indulged in and the group, about forty strong, gathered about the festive board, following which there were several bridge games, lasting into the wee small hours of the morning.

ALUMNI DAY

The annual Spring Day of the Cornell Medical Alumni Association, which was held on the second of May, surpassed all the expectations of its sponsors. Nearly three hundred graduates registered, a far greater number than any previous reunion has brought out. The alumni were entertained at lunch by the Board of Governors of the Hospital and it is estimated that 340 guests were served in the large tent erected in the South Garden. This is the first time that the Hospital has taken an active part in the Cornell Alumni Day and the luncheon party, under Miss Gillam's admirable supervision, brought so many enthusiastic comments from the visitors that one hopes it may become an annual affair.

All divisions of the College and Hospital shared in presenting a scientific program consisting of clinics, ward rounds and demonstrations, illustrating the varied activities of this large institution. These were well attended and the alumni appreciated the opportunity to meet so many of their former teachers.

In the evening nearly four hundred of the alumni and their guests gathered at the Hotel Biltmore for the annual banquet. At the speakers table were the President and several trustees of the University and the President and other members of the Board of Governors and Medical Board of the Hospital. The culminating event of this most interesting day was the presentation of a portrait of Dr. James Ewing to the Medical College by the Class of 1910. The portrait has just been placed on the second floor of the College building, just outside the entrance to the library and is generally regarded as an excellent likeness of one of the eminent figures in Cornell Medical College.

The success of the 1935 Spring Day was so encouraging that plans are already under way for a bigger and better celebration next year.